



Kentucky Geologists

Volume 11 Issue 2

December 2009

Mission

The mission of the Board of Registration for Professional Geologists is to regulate the public practice of geology in the Commonwealth of Kentucky to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth from negligent, incompetent, or fraudulent practices.

Board

Larry Rhodes, *Chairman*
 Gil Cumbee, *Vice Chairman*
 Marsha L. Taylor Meyer
 Stephen Wyatt, *Public-at-large*
 James Cobb, *State Geologist*,
Ex-Officio

Kentucky Division of Occupations & Professions

Frances Short, *Director*
 Jeff Boler, *Board Administrator*

Office of the Attorney General

Michael West, *Board Attorney*

Contact information

Registration questions:

Lucie Duvall
Board Administrator
 Kentucky Division of
 Occupations & Professions
 P.O. Box 1360
 Frankfort KY 40602
 502-564-3296 ext. 230 tel
 502-696-4962 fax
jeff.boler@ky.gov

Newsletter comments:

Judith Hower
Communications Specialist
 Kentucky Geological Survey
 228 Mining & Mineral Resources
 University of Kentucky
 Lexington, KY 40506-0107
 859-277-0777 tel
 859-257-1147 fax
judith.hower@uky.edu

Board Web site:

<http://bpg.ky.gov/>

As an agency of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists is solely funded by applicants and credential holders and receives no tax dollars.

Continuing education for geologists

Gil Cumbee, PG, Vice Chairman
Thomas P. Ryavec, PG, Immediate Past Chairman

On August 3, 2009, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Board of Registration for Professional Geologists unanimously approved proposed amendments to KRS 332A that would require professional geologists applying for certificate renewal or reinstatement in Kentucky to show evidence of completion of continuing education credits. Senator David Boswell and Representative Tommy Thompson have been contacted by the Board to be sponsors of legislation to amend the current statute. These amendments are scheduled to be introduced at the 2010 Legislative Session of the Kentucky General Assembly. Plans are for the proposed amendments to become effective in 2010. Geologists applying for registration renewal would be required to provide documentation of successful completion of continuing education credits beginning at a future date, as yet to be determined.

Currently, eight states of the 29 states and territories with geoscientist registration requirements have or are in the process of instituting continuing education requirements. In 2007, the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors implemented continuing education requirements for professional engineers.

An ad hoc committee of geologists from the Central Kentucky area was formed as an initial step to draft proposed amendments to 201 KAR 31. The first meeting of the ad hoc committee was held on July 31, 2009; the committee has since met on a monthly basis. The committee began its



Gil Cumbee, PG, Board Vice Chairman

work by developing spreadsheets to review and compare the continuing education requirements for geoscientists in other states and the new Kentucky PE continuing education requirements. Based on this analysis, a working draft of

Continued on page 3

In this issue

Page

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1 | Continuing education |
| 2 | Registration activity |
| 2 | Calendar |
| 2 | Board actions |
| 2 | New Web address |
| 2 | Renewals |
| 2 | Fall ASBOG exam |
| 3 | Annual ASBOG meeting |
| 3 | New Board Administrator |
| 4 | Geology program NKU |
| 5 | Meet the Board |
| 5 | Board changes |
| 5 | Condolences |
| 5 | Registration by comity |

Welcome New Registrants!

Professional Geologists

June 1, 2009:
Turka, Robert (PA)

August 3, 2009:
Howe, Matthew R. (GA)

August 23, 2009:
Stoller, Sharon L. (TN)

September 9, 2009:
Robertson, Chris C. (AZ)

October 1, 2009:
James, Mark R. (IN)
Kvam, Brian J. (SC)

October 13, 2009:
Haverkost, Gerald T. (TN)
Baird, David W. (KY)

October 18, 2009:
Forster, Kim H. (IN)

October 21, 2009:
Jarvis, Steven D. (GA)



Geologists-in-Training

No new Geologists-in-Training have been registered since the June, 2009 issue of the newsletter.

Calendar

Board Meetings Tentative 2010 Schedule

February 1
April 5
June 7
August 2
October 4
December 6

Time: 1:30 p.m. (ET)

Location:

Div. of Occupations & Professions
911 Leawood Drive
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Note: Dates are subject to change. Please call the Board office if you plan to attend.

2010

Exam dates

March 5, 2010
October 1, 2010

Application deadlines

January 12, 2010
August 10, 2010

ASBOG 2010 Annual Meeting

November 4 – 6
St. Louis, MO

Board Actions

Complaint review report

No new complaints have been adjudicated since those reported in the June 2009 newsletter.

Board legal actions

The Board has taken no legal actions since those reported in the June 2009 newsletter.

New Web address

<http://bpg.ky.gov>

The Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists has a new Web site with an improved, user-friendly interface. Please take time to visit us on line.

The Kentucky Division of Occupations and Professions also has a new Web address: <http://dop.ky.gov>.

Renewals

In the future registrants will receive postcard reminders about renewals and will be offered the options to renew via the Web site or to contact the Board office to obtain a paper copy of the renewal form.

Fall ASBOG exam

Fourteen persons sat for the Fall ASBOG exam: 9 fundamentals; 5 fundamentals and practice.

Results of the Fall ASBOG exams had not been received from ASBOG when this newsletter went to press.

Total registrants

1414 Professional Geologists
18 Geologists-in-Training

Annual ASBOG Meeting

Larry Rhodes, PG, Chairman

The Association of State Boards of Geologists (ASBOG) held its 20th Annual Meeting November 5 through 7, 2009, in Birmingham, Alabama. Vice Chairman Gil Cumbee and I represented the Kentucky board.

It was reported by the Board that ASBOG will have a financial shortfall in 2010 of \$36,000. The number of candidates for registration decreased in 2009 and another decrease is expected in 2010. A motion was made to raise the annual dues for each member board from \$2,950 to \$4,500. The motion passed 36 to 2, with 2 abstentions. The dues increase will go into effect in 2012 and will be the first increase since 1997 (15 years). Given the amount of time that has transpired since that last increase, Kentucky voted in favor of the change.

A motion was presented and passed to increase the fee for the Practice of Geology examination from \$200 to \$250 beginning in 2011. Kentucky voted against this fee increase.

A motion was also presented and passed to increase the fee for the Fundamentals of Geology examination. That fee increase will be determined in 2010 based on the economy at that time. Most present were not in favor of a large increase. Most likely the increase would be in the range of \$25, which would bring the exam fee to \$175. Kentucky voted against this fee increase.

The ASBOG Foundation received tax exempt status as a 501(c)6 effective December 21, 2007. It is an organization incorporated under the laws of the State of South Carolina and is organized and operates exclusively for the benefit of, and to carry out the purposes of, ASBOG.



Larry Rhodes, PG, Board Chairman

The Foundation's bylaws provide that sponsorship monies received are to be placed in investment-grade interest-bearing instruments having limited market risk. Once the operating costs of the Foundation are satisfied, substantially all remaining investment income derived is intended to be provided to ASBOG as unrestricted support; e.g., to help defray the cost of the national geology examinations, thereby keeping the price of the examinations affordable for the candidates. Additional information can be found on the Foundation Web site: <http://www.asbogfoundation.org>.



*Lucie Duvall
Board Administrator*

Continuing education

con'd from page 1

proposed regulatory amendments has been developed and is near completion. This draft will be made available to other groups of geologists throughout the state for review and comment before final review by the Board.

The process that has been adopted by the Board involves working with Kentucky's registered geologists as a means for developing a continuing education program that will allow registered geologists to obtain continuing education credits for many of the activities in which they already participate. It is the intention of the Board that, with guidance from this ad hoc committee and from geologists statewide, Kentucky's continuing education requirements will serve as a model program. The draft regulations are intended to ensure that continuing education credits are straightforward to obtain and of educational benefit.

Meet our new Board Administrator

Lucie Duvall replaces Wil King as Board Administrator. For answers to your registration questions, please contact Lucie at lucie.duvall@ky.gov or at 502-564-3296 (ext.230). Her fax number is 502-696-4962.

The Geology Program at Northern Kentucky University

by John Rockaway, PhD

The geology program at Northern Kentucky University, part of the Department of Physics and Geology, has experienced a period of significant growth over the past several years, as we now approach our target enrollment of 50 majors. Part of this growth can be attributed to our efforts to develop better-defined areas of emphasis within the program, and part can be attributed to an increased effort to offer courses for students in the NKU general education program that generate an interest in geology. Popular courses that have been recently added include "This Dangerous Earth," "History of the Earth," "Prehistoric Life," "Geology of the National Parks," "Geology of Natural Resources," and "Geology of the Northern Kentucky Area."

As is typical of small programs with limited resources, the geology program at NKU is unable to offer the full spectrum of geology courses. Rather we emphasize the two areas of geology that our region is most noted for, namely Ordovician sedimentary stratigraphy and engineering and environmental geology (i.e., geologic hazards such as landslides). To support our Ordovician sedimentary emphasis, we have developed courses in stratigraphy, sedimentary petrography and paleontology and we now offer both upper division and lower division courses in field paleontology in Utah each summer.

However, the engineering and environmental geology emphasis has generated the most student interest. Since most students graduating with this specialization follow careers involved with the health, safety and welfare of the public, the geology curriculum has been deliberately developed to prepare graduates for professional registration. As a registered geologist (Missouri) and having been active in ASBOG for many years, I am well aware of the emphasis ASBOG exams place on hydrogeology, surficial geology and engineering and environmental geology. Consequently, our curriculum has been developed to provide students with a strong background in these areas of expertise. Hydrogeology and geomorphology are required of all students. Courses in environmental geology, geophysics, soil science, geologic field methods (held in Colorado each summer) and groundwater resources are offered as electives. Recently we introduced a new upper division course in applied geophysics. Current plans are to expand our capabilities to conduct geophysical studies as funds become available for the purchase of geophysical equipment and software and possibly the hiring of another faculty member.

In addition, we help prepare our students for the ASBOG exam through a required seminar course that covers topics such as professional ethics, technical writing, and ASBOG exam practice questions. The seminar also includes presentations by outside speakers about professions in geology. For example, this fall we invited geologists employed with local geotechnical engineering firms, the US Army Corps of Engineers and private consultants to discuss case histories that illustrate the application of geology in professional practice. Our students are well prepared for the ASBOG



*John Rockaway, PhD
Northern Kentucky University*

Fundamentals of Geology Examination as evidenced by the fact that, to date, all students who have taken the examination have passed. We are proud that more than half of our graduates have continued on to graduate-level programs and that many have accepted positions of employment with major local and national geotechnical consulting firms.

For more information about the geology program at NKU, please feel free to contact me at 859-572-5412 or rockawayj@nku.edu. We invite you to visit us on the Web at <http://geology.nku.edu>.

**Society for Mining,
Metallurgy,
& Exploration**

Annual Meeting

Feb. 28 - Mar. 2, 2010

Phoenix, AZ

Meet the Board



Marsha L. Taylor Meyer, PG

Marsha L. Taylor Meyer, PG, was appointed by Governor Steve Beshear to the Board for a four-year term that expires in 2013.

Ms. Meyer currently serves as Wellhead Protection Coordinator for the Louisville Water Company. In this capacity she worked with other LWC personnel to form a local planning team composed of members of local government from the Louisville Metro Area and the City of Prospect. In addition to researching associated laws and regulations and in developing a management plan to minimize the potential for ground water contamination, she has been involved in the development of public outreach and educational programs for home owners and businesses within the Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA). The LWC and the WHPA Project were recipients of the American Water Works Association's Exemplary Source Water Protection Award in 2009.

Ms. Meyer has also practiced as a hydrogeologist with Meyer Groundwater Services, HNTB Corporation, and M. L. Taylor and Associates Inc. Her professional experience includes testing programs for

toxic materials in soil and ground water; the design of monitoring and recovery programs; the evaluation of potential ground water resources; aquifer test design; the development of well field management programs, and applications of photogeologic analysis. She is the author of numerous publications and operations manuals. In addition, Ms. Meyers is an accomplished leader of seminars and training sessions on the subject of hydrogeology.

Ms. Meyer holds a B.S. degree in geology from Murray State University. She resides with her husband and son in the Louisville area.

Board changes

Tom Ryavec stepped down after his four-year term expired. Many thanks to Tom for his years of service and his recent leadership as Board Chairman.

Larry Rhodes was elected Board Chairman at the meeting held October 5, 2009. Gil Cumbee continues to serve as Vice Chairman.

Marsha L. Taylor Meyer was sworn in as a returning Board member at the October 5th Board meeting to replace Mr. Ryavec. She served on the Board previously from 2000 to 2004.

Lucie Duvall replaced Wil King as Board Administrator.

Michael West replaced Mark Brengelman as Board Attorney.

Registration by comity

At the June 22, 2009, meeting of the Board, both Tennessee and Texas were added to the list of states whose licensing standards for geologists meet Kentucky's standards for registration by comity. Upon application, a person licensed to practice as a geologist in any of the states listed below automatically qualifies as meeting the registration requirements in Kentucky. These states are so identified because their laws have standards at least as rigorous as those provided by Kentucky law.

Alabama	New Hampshire
Arkansas	Oregon
California	Pennsylvania
Delaware	South Carolina
Florida	Tennessee
Georgia	Texas
Idaho	Utah
Indiana	Virginia
Maine	Washington
Nebraska	Wisconsin

AAPG Annual Convention & Exhibition

**New Orleans, LA
April 11-14, 2010**

Northeastern/Southeastern Geological Society of America Combined Meeting

Baltimore, MD
March 14-16, 2010

Condolences

With much sadness the Board reports that Dana Hockensmith, died on November 14, 2009. Ms. Hockensmith served as Board Administrator from 2005 through June, 2009. We express our condolences to the Hockensmith family.

Kentucky Geologists is published semiannually by the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists. The publication features topics relevant to the ethical practice of geology in the Commonwealth. Suggestions for the newsletter should be directed to Judith Hower, Communications Specialist, Kentucky Geological Survey, 228 Mining & Mineral Resources Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington KY 40506-0107, (859) 277-0777; FAX (859) 257-1147 <judith.hower@uky.edu>.



**Kentucky Board of Registration for
Professional Geologists**
228 Mining & Mineral Resources Building
University of Kentucky
Lexington KY 40506-0107

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Lexington KY
Permit 51

Return Service Requested